

THE

REHEARSAL.

1. Why I speak so Late of the *Elections*. We ought not to *Advise* the *Electors*.
2. They are not a farthing the better for't.
3. It is only to Please our selves.
4. A sure Rule for *Elections*. Some go *Constantly* to Church, and *Constantly* side against her.
5. The Danger of Spies, especially in St. Stephen's Chappel.
6. A Test to Discover them.
7. Who are against *Peace*. And the little Hopes.
8. The Few must overcome the Many. Else we're Undone.
9. Ther will be a *Reck'ning*
10. No *Peace* will be *Lasting* but what is *Just*.

WEDNESDAY, May 26. 1708.

(1.) *Country-man.* **Y**OU come in with your nine *Eggs* a penny and six of them Rotten. You begin now to talk of *Elections* when they are almost over.

Rehearsal. Then None can say, That I Write out of any Evil Design, or to En-flame the People. I wou'd have *Elections* to be *Free*. And even *Advice* is a *Byass*. For it Confounds the poor *Silly People*, that they know not their own *Minds* ! And a Cunn-ing fellow may Mislead many an honest well-meaning Soul ! Therefore let them take their own way — For is not that the *Wiseſt* and the *Beſt* ? Is not the *Original* of *Government* always in the *Right* ? And who shall be *Judge* over the *Original* ! Who shall Presume to give it *Advice* ! None thrust themselves into the *Council* or *Cabi-net* of *Princes* but who are Call'd by the Prince. And the Greatest *Wisdom* of the Prince is shew'd in the Choice of his *Minifters*. And is not the People the *Original* and *Supreme MONARCH* ! Yet we Treat him as a *Child*, and think he cannot *Govern* without our *Advice* ! We must be *Direc-ting* him in every thing ! And will not let him have the Choice of his own *Reprefentatives* ! Are not we then *Saucy fellows*, to Approach our *Sovereign Lord the People* with so little *Respect*, and pull him by the Sleeve, and *Toss* and *Tumble* him up and down, as if we were all *Jack-Fellows* well met !

(2.) Besides I'll tell you, the time of *Elections* is the worst time to give them *Ad-*

vise. For they are not then at Leisure to Hear you. Wou'd you *Preach* in *Tuttle-fields* upon an *Election Day*, to 20 or 30000 *Hollo Boys, Hello!* And for some Reasonable time before they are all *Drunk* and wou'd Forget what you said to them. And they will be as little the Better for what I say to them now. For most of them cannot *Read*, and fewer *Understand*.

(3.) *Country-m.* To what Purpose then are all these *Advices* to *Electors* ?

Rehearsal. Only to shew our *Parts* ! And that we must speak to every thing ! Therefore I have put in, because I wou'd not be out of Good Company ! But I had rather speak to the *Electors* for a *King* of the *Romans*, for they are but a *Few*, and are Men of *Sense*. And at this time it wou'd not be of less *Consequence*.

(4.) *Country-m.* Let them look to that — But I think, *Master*, that in your two last you have made the Matter very Plain to the Meanest Capacity in *England*, That for the *Security* of the *Church*, we ought not to Chuse *Dissenters*, who are Profes'd *Adver-tisaries*; nor *Low-Church-Men*, who are very Indifferent *Friends*; nor *Whigges*, who care for no *Church*. And that keeping *Constantly* to the *Church* is not a fore *Mark* of Great *Affection* to her, while they as *Constantly* side against her upon all Occasions. Deeds shew Men more than *Words*. I am sure in our own *Private Concerns* we shou'd Distinguish Men thus. And if we do it not in the *Publick*, it is because our *Concern* is but *Small* there.

(5.)

(5.) Rehears. We are to look to the Spies that are in our Camp. They cou'd do us little Hurt if they were not always amongst us. And the Danger is the greater when they come into our Churches. Especially if any of them shou'd get in to St. Stephen's Chappel. They might there corrupt our Fountain, and if they Prevail'd, Establish Iniquity by a Law.

Country-m. But how shall we Discover such For all make Fair Pretences.

(6.) Rehears. I will put a Test to them against the Time comes. You will Grant me they are not Stanch who will not use their Utmost Endeavours to Compas what they Pray for, what the Queen Recommends to them, and Prays for Heartily herself, and has Directed all the Nation to Pray for, in the Form of Thanksgiving for the Disappointment of the late Attempt to Invade her Kingdom of Great Britain, wherein we are Taught to Pray for a Just, Lasting, and Happy Peace, to the Glory of God, the Honour of our Sovereign, and the Security of His Church and People.

Country-m. Ay, Master, that wou'd be a Peace indeed! But when shall we have it? Sure ther is None who wou'd not Pray for such a Peace, and Endeavour it all that is in their Power.

Rehears. I tell you, Country-man ther are those who do not Desire such a Peace, and will Employ all their Endeavours to Obstruct it.

Country-m. What! A Just Peace, a Lasting Peace, and a Happy Peace! Wou'd any body be against such a Peace?

(7.) Rehears. Yes, Country-man, and for that very Reason, because it is Just, Lasting, and Happy to the Church and Nation! They will be against a Just Peace, who Love Injustice and Prosper by it: They will be against a Lasting Peace, who love to Fish in Troubl'd Waters: And they will be against what is Happy to the Church and Nation, who love not the Church, and Subsist by our Divisions: And they will be against any Peace at all, who Thrive by the War, and put Money in their Pocket!

Country-m. Alas, Master, now you have quite Discourag'd me. For now I see we can have no such Peace till Men grow Just, and Prefer the Publick Good to their own Private Interests.

(8.) Rehears. Or till those who are for the Good of the Nation shall have the Courage, tho' Fewer, to Oppose the Many who Measure Justice by Nothing but Interest. And a Few that are in the Right, will in Time, if they stand to it, by the Blessing of God, gain the Majority on their side, un-

less God has Determin'd our Destruction, and as a Preparative to it has Infatuated us, that we see not the things which belong to our Peace.

(9.) Country-m. I have often heard that Honesty is the best Policy. And that tho' God suffers Wickedness for a time, yet He will not let it go Unpunish'd.

(10.) Rehears. There is nothing Just but what is according to the Rule of Doing to others as we wou'd have them do to us. Nor can we Expect any Peace to be Lasting, that is not Built upon the true Foundation of the Law of God, and the known Laws of the Land, pursuant to it. Any other Peace is but a Seed-Plot for new Wars. And may God Scatter those that Delight in War. And send us, in His good Time, a Just, Lasting, and Happy Peace, to the Glory of His Name, the Honour of our Sovereign, and the Security of His Church and People.

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